FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION

## COMPLAINT 2010 MAR -4 AM 9: 49 OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

February 23, 2010

Office of the General Counsel Federal Election Commission 999 E Street N.W. Washington, D.C. 20483

Dear Sir or Madam:

This Addendum is being made to the original Complaint filed dated February 9, 2010, regarding the congressional candidate, Harold W. Gowdy, III (aka Trey Gowdy) and his congressional campaign committee (Committee ID C00462523).

In the original Complaint filed, a question was raised about the reasonable, fair market cost of congressional website development, given Gowdy's campaign recorded an expenditure of only \$3,806 on his 2nd Quarter 2009 FEC filing for the period April 1st through June 30, 2009. The actual entry was dated June 29, 2009, and attributed to the firm "Under The Power Lines" (aka UTPL). This quartien was raised in conjunction to the use of funds from Gowdy's solicitor campaign where \$6,000 was spent for website development just prior to Mr. Gowdy's announcement that he was a candidate for Congress from the 4th Congressional District of South Carolina. The original contention being that this \$6,000 expenditure of solicitor campaign funds was actually the initial payment for a congressional website, thereby violating federal campaign laws.

A review of another client of "Under The Power Lines", Barrett for Congress, a congressional campaign committee (Committee ID C@3d6617) of Granham Burnett for the neighboring 3rd congressional district in Smith Carolina, gives an instructive example of what the "going rate" is for website development. There were two disbursements listed on the Barrett's FEC filing of its 3rd Quarter, 2009 report on October 14, 2008, (FEC-3946242008, see Attachment 1.1) specifically for "website development" from "Under the Power Lines":

- 1. On August 8, 2008, in the amount of \$13,125.00
- 2. On September 4, 2008, in the amount of \$9,605.00

Each of the above payments for "website development" are significantly greater than the \$3,806 amount listed on the Trey Gawdy report montioned above. It appears that these were the initial payments for website development; not ca-going enhancement/maintenacce expenditures that may have accurred on later Barrett FEC reportings.

Should the FEC decide to query its reporting database for other instances of disbursements made to "Under The Power Lines", "Power Lines" and/or "UTPL", by other congressional campaign committees perhaps a fair-market amount for website development could be better determined?

As a point-of-reference, Under Tho Power Linns, LLC was organized in South Carolina on September 25, 2007. It is not clear if there was a predecessor with any of the same principals, such as Wesley Donebue or Terry Sullivan.

In a recent newspaper article published on February 12, 2010, by the Spartanburg Herald Journal, you will find the following comments being reported in regard to the solicitor campaign expenditure of \$6,000 and the low cost of the congressional campaign website:

"[Terry] Sullivan wouldn't contract about the April 20209 Web site expense, saving he doesn't talk about specific client work.

"A source close to Gowdy's campaign said Gowdy approached Under the Power Lines, a Web design firm, about building a Solicitor's Web site. Wes Donehue, who is with the Web design firm, spent hours designing and shooting video for the site, the source said.

"That source said Gowdy continued trying to perfect the site until the time came be desided instead to sun for Congress. Under the Power Lines was paid for the work it had slone, and then — with Gowdy on retainer — subsequent fees to build a congressional campaign Web site were much lower."

If Trey Gowdy were on retainer, which seems incredulous, then other interesting federal reporting requirements come into play, which need to be addressed as well.

Under penalty of perjury, I believe the information stated in this Complaint Addendum to be true and submit this Complaint Addendum to be included with the original Complaint filed on February 9, 2010.

Sincerely,

Greenville, SC 29615

Enc: Attachment 1.1 - Barrett Expenditures: FEC Report for 3rd Quarter, 2008

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## Image# 28002460608 SCHEDULE B (FEC Form 3) FOR LINE NUMBER: PAGE 105/110 Use separate schedule(s) (check only one) for each category of the Detailed Summery Page ITEMIZED DISBURSEMENTS 19b 17 18 19a 20a 20b 20c 21 Any Information copied from such Reports and Statements may not be sold or used by any person for the purpose of statements may not be sold or used by any person for the purpose of statements or for commercial purposes, other than using the name end address of any political committee to solicit contributions from such committee NAME OF COMMITTEE (In Full) **Barrett For Congress** Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) Transaction ID: 81012.E2818 **U.S. Postmaster Date of Disbursement** M / P23 / Y 2008 Mailing Address Lexington Station Zip Code City Amount of Each Disbursement this Period SC 29072-Lexington 42.00 Purpose of Disbursement Refund or Disposel of Excess Contributions Required Under **Postage** 001 Candidate Name Category/ 11 C.F.R. 400.53 Type Office Sought: House Disbursement For: **POSTAGE** Senate Primary General President Other (specify) District: Full Name (Last, First, Middle Isitial) Transaction ID: 81012.E2841 B. **Under the Power Lines** Date of Disbursement os ' os ' žoča' Mailing Address 807 Gervais Street **Suite 202** State City Zlp Code Amount of Each Disbursement this Pariod Columbia 29201-13125.00 Pulipase of Dibburgement Website Design 001 Refund or Disposal of Excess Contributions Required Under 11 C.F.R. 400.53 Candidate Name Category/ Type Office Saught: House Disbursement For: **WEBSITE DESIGN** General Senate **Primary** President Other (specify) District: State: Full Name (Lest, First, Middle Initial) Transaction ID: 81013,E2884 Date of Disbursement **Under the Power Lines** M M / D D / Y ŽOĎB **Mailing Address 807 Gervals Street** Suite 202 Amount of Each Disbursement this Period City Zip Code SC Columbia 29201-9605.00 **Purpose of Disbursement** Website Design Refund or Disposal of Excess Contributions Required Under 001 Candidate Name Category/ 11 C.F.R. 400.53 Туре Office Sought: House Disbursement For: **WEBSITE DESIGN** General Senate Primary Problem Other (specify) District: State: 22772.00

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